

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Switzerland/FOR/USAR

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SUBJECT Activities of Oxyda A.G., Zurich

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PLACE 25X1A

ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED]

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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1. The Zurich firm of Oxyda A.G., Mhlegasse 17, is reported to be regularly engaged in the purchase of potassium salts and ammonium sulphate from Eastern Germany. While most Western European customers for chemical fertilizers often find it impossible to secure offers of these East German products, the Oxyda firm is able to order as much as it can use, and could in fact order even more if it could surmount the financial problems affecting such transactions.
 2. Oxyda's success in this field is due to the good connections which its managing director, Victor Schereschewski, enjoys with the East German Leunawerke. It is rumored that Schereschewski, a naturalized Swiss citizen who was born in St. Petersburg (Leningrad) in 1898, was in a position some time ago to favor the Leunawerke with deliveries of machinery from the West.
 3. Schereschewski receives regular shipments of 3,000 to 4,000 metric tons of ammonium sulphate from Leuna through the port of Rostock and sells these either transit Hamburg or f.o.b. Rostock. Most of the ammonium sulphate is sold by Oxyda A.G. to Spain despite the Soviet ban on sales for transshipment to that country.*
 4. Schereschewski has been in the habit of receiving his payments from Spain in free dollar accreditives at a Zurich bank. Because of recent Swiss measures, however, he is unable to place these dollars at Moscow's disposal to finance further purchases from Leuna, and it is this problem which is cramping his buying activities. Schereschewski is now considering a plan of transferring his dollars to a London bank which will be able to establish credits for Moscow with less difficulty. If this plan is successful, Oxyda A.G. will be able to step up its purchasing activity.
- * **Comment:** It was incorrectly reported in [REDACTED] that it was not Oxyda A.G. that was selling these fertilizers to Spain. It is possible that the Russians, who take a stern view of such practices, are not aware of Oxyda's resale program.

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